

The Secretary of State presents her compliments to Their Excellencies and Messieurs and Mesdames the Chiefs of Mission of the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the other States participating in the Partnership for Peace.

In performance of the depositary duties of the United States of America, the Secretary of State informs the Chiefs of Mission that, on August 28, 2007, the Russian Federation deposited an instrument of ratification of the Agreement among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the other States Participating in the Partnership for Peace Regarding the Status of Their Forces, and the Additional Protocol thereto, done at Brussels June 19, 1995. The Agreement shall enter into force for the Russian Federation on September 27, 2007, thirty days after the deposit of its instrument of ratification, in accordance with Article V, paragraph 3, of the Agreement.

The instrument of ratification was accompanied by a statement, the text of which is enclosed together with an English translation by the Department of State.

The Secretary of State would be grateful if the Chiefs of Mission would transmit this information to their respective Governments.

Enclosure: as stated.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be a stylized 'M' or 'K' with a flourish.

Department of State,

Washington, September 14, 2007.

DIPLOMATIC NOTE



TRANSLATION

Annex

**Statement
Made by the Russian Federation upon the
Ratification of the Agreement among the States Parties to the
North Atlantic Treaty and Other States Participating in the
Partnership for Peace Regarding the Status of Their Forces,
of June 19, 1995, and the Additional Protocol Thereto**

“In order to implement the Agreement among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the Other States Participating in the Partnership for Peace Regarding the Status of Their Forces, signed June 19, 1995, the Russian Federation proceeds from the following understanding of the provisions of the Agreement among the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty Regarding the Status of Their Forces, of June 19, 1951 (hereinafter the Agreement):

1) the provision of Article III (4) of the Agreement, which obligates the authorities of the sending State to immediately inform the authorities of the receiving State of cases where a member of a force or of a civilian component fails to return to his country after being separated from the service, shall also apply to cases where those persons absent themselves without authorization from the site of deployment of the force of the sending State and are carrying weapons;

2) on the basis of reciprocity, the Russian Federation will understand the words “possess arms” used in Article VI of the Agreement to mean the application and use of weapons, and the words “shall give sympathetic consideration to requests from the receiving State” to mean the obligation of the authorities of the sending State to consider

the receiving State's requests concerning the shipment, transportation, use, and application of weapons;

3) the list of offenses set forth in subparagraph c of Article VII (2) is not exhaustive and, for the Russian Federation, includes, apart from those enumerated, other offenses that are directed against the foundations of its constitutional system and security and that are covered by the Russian Federation Criminal Code;

4) pursuant to Article VII (4) of the Agreement, the Russian Federation presumes that the authorities of the sending State have the right to exercise their jurisdiction in the event that at sites where the sending State's force is deployed, unidentified persons commit offenses against that state, members of its force, and members of its civilian component, or their family members. When a person who committed an offense is identified, the procedure established by the Agreement takes effect;

5) the assistance mentioned in subparagraph a of Article VII (6) of the Agreement is provided in conformity with the legislation of the requested State. In providing legal assistance, the competent authorities of the States Parties to the Agreement interact directly, and if necessary, through the appropriate higher authorities;

6) the Russian Federation allows importation of the goods and vehicles mentioned in Article XI (2), (5) and (6) of the Agreement, and the equipment and items mentioned in Article XI (4) of the Agreement which are intended for the needs of the force, in accordance with the terms of the customs regime for temporary importation that were established by the customs legislation of the Russian Federation. In this connection, such importation is carried out with full exemption from payment of customs duties, taxes, and fees, except for customs fees for storage, customs processing of goods, and similar services outside of the designated places or hours of operation of the customs authorities, and for the periods provided for in the Agreement if such periods are expressly stipulated in the Agreement.

The Russian Federation presumes that the procedure and terms for importation of the goods mentioned in Article XI (4) of the Agreement and intended for the needs of the force will be governed by separate agreements on the sending and receiving of forces between the Russian Federation and the sending State.

None of the provisions of Article XI, including paras. 3 and 8, restrict the right of Russian Federation customs authorities to take all necessary steps to monitor compliance with the terms for importation of goods and vehicles provided for by Article XI of the Agreement, if such measures are necessary under Russian Federation customs legislation.

The Russian Federation presumes that the sending State will send confirmation to the Russian Federation customs authorities that all goods and vehicles imported into the Russian Federation in accordance with the provisions of Article XI of the Agreement and with separate arrangements on the sending and receiving of forces between the Russian Federation and the sending State may be used solely for the purposes for which they were imported. In the event they are used for other purposes, all customs payments stipulated by Russian Federation legislation must be made for such goods and vehicles, and the other requirements set by Russian Federation legislation must also be fulfilled.

Transit of the aforesaid goods and vehicles shall be carried out in accordance with Russian Federation customs legislation.

Pursuant to Article XI (11), the Russian Federation declares that it permits the importation into the customs territory of the Russian Federation of petroleum products intended for use in the process of operating official vehicles, aircraft, and vessels belonging to the forces or the civilian component, with exemption from the payment of customs duties and taxes in accordance with the requirements and restrictions established by Russian Federation legislation.

The Russian Federation permits the importation of the vehicles that are mentioned in Article XI (2), (5) and (6) of the Agreement and intended for personal use by members of the civilian component and their family members under the terms of temporary importation that are established by Russian Federation legislation.

The Russian Federation presumes that customs processing of goods imported (exported) by members of the civilian component and their family members and intended solely for their personal use, including goods for initially setting up a household, shall be carried out without the exacting of customs payments, except for customs fees for storage, customs processing of goods, and similar services outside the designated places or hours of operation of the customs authorities.

7) The Russian Federation also presumes that documents and materials appended to them that are sent to its competent authorities within the framework of the Agreement will be accompanied by duly certified translations thereof into the Russian language.”